

FFA Foundation, Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County, Tulare County Ag, Farmland Mitigation Guidebook, Farmersville High School Ag, and Tulare County Animal Services.

She is viewed as a leader in the community for her communication to policymakers and time spent advising regulatory boards on issues such as air, water, ag crime, and land use. She has also volunteered time to Common Threads, the World Ag Expo, Ag Ventures, and many other community events.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mrs. Tricia Stever Blattler for her contributions to the agriculture industry and the Central Valley.

RECOGNIZING PAUL WILLIAM BEATTY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an outstanding constituent from my district, Paul William Beatty, who has served as a volunteer firefighter at the Goodwill Hose Co. No. 3 Station in Bristol, Pennsylvania for nearly four decades. Following in the footsteps of his father and brothers, Paul became a volunteer firefighter and fought over 500 fires, helping save countless lives and giving comfort to those who had lost everything.

I am proud to honor Paul as an exceptional member of our community and celebrate his retirement. Whether at noon or midnight, the dead of winter or the heat of summer, Paul has always answered the call for help when it was needed. He has demonstrated extraordinary bravery and leadership over the past 39 years and his hard work has contributed to the safety of our community.

I am incredibly grateful for the positive impact Paul has had on others throughout his long career of service, and I wish him countless blessings during his retirement.

CONGRATULATING RICHARD LINEBERRY ON HIS ELECTION

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Richard Lineberry of Hamilton for his service as State Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Indiana.

Richard joined VFW Post 2457 in 2011 and has been a leader since. He has served as the 4th District Commander, the Indiana Department Junior Vice Commander and the Indiana Department Senior Vice Commander.

Richard has served his community, state and country in several capacities beyond that of the VFW, as well. For nearly 34 years, he served in the United States Air Force Reserve/National Guard. For twenty years, Richard served as a law enforcement officer in New Haven, where he held positions including deputy coroner, Sergeant, SCUBA Recovery, accident reconstructionist, and firearms instruc-

tor. For 12 years, he worked at the VA hospital in Fort Wayne both as a police officer and as a Means Test Officer where he presided over initial enrollments for veterans seeking benefits.

Richard is also a proud board member of Honor Flight Northeast Indiana, which helps bring Hoosier veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices. Remarkably, he has registered over 100 veterans for these honor flights, including many who served in World War II.

Few men are as deserving of State Commander as Richard. That's why I'm proud to honor him for all the remarkable things he has done and the lives he has changed. This position as State Commander has been a crowning achievement of a record of service for which our community is most grateful.

THREAT FROM FENTANYL FLOWING OVER OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address a catastrophic mass death in our country because of our open borders—all due to fentanyl.

Fentanyl is freely flowing across our southern border as seizures increased by nearly 135 percent in 2021 under Joe Biden's lax immigration enforcement.

In FY 2021, Customs and Border Protection seized 11,201 pounds of fentanyl, a historic rate that is more than all that was seized in 2018 and 2019 combined. This amounts to enough fentanyl to cause 2,540,341,996 deaths, or more than 7 times the U.S. population.

The free flow of this deadly drug across our border is a direct result of the Biden administration's open border policies. The fact is, Joe Biden continues to ignore and fails to address the record high overdose deaths caused from deadly fentanyl-related substances crossing our border.

As a result, the scourge of fentanyl is destroying our communities, killing our children and devastating our families.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), U.S. overdose deaths reached a devastating new height in 2021, claiming a new victim every five minutes.

There is a direct link between fentanyl-related overdose deaths and criminal drug cartels in Mexico. The ease in which the drug cartels operate is shocking. The cartels control the borders and are taking full advantage of Joe Biden's weak immigration policies.

Last December, in my home state of Arizona, the Scottsdale Police Department and the Arizona Attorney General's Office seized a record 1.7 million fentanyl pills and 10 kilograms of fentanyl powder.

During a recent two-month public safety surge, the DEA Phoenix Field Division announced total seizures of over three million fentanyl pills and 45 kilograms of fentanyl powder.

Just one fentanyl pill can kill. Yet our open borders remain a fentanyl pipeline.

Instead of securing our southern border to stop the flow of fentanyl, Mr. Biden has doubled down on his open-border policies that will only worsen the ongoing border crisis and destroy more communities and lives.

Just because Joe Biden ignores the fentanyl crisis doesn't mean Congress should. Congress must address the crisis at the border.

Congress must also take action and permanently place fentanyl-related substances in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. The emergency class-wide scheduling order for fentanyl-related substances is set to expire on February 18, 2022.

Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats are wrong to allow this order to expire.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Southern Union State Community College.

Southern Union State Community College is the second oldest two-year college in Alabama, and is currently under the leadership of President Todd Shackett.

Southern Union has compiled a rich history throughout the years. Originally chartered by the Southern Christian Convention of Congregational Christian Churches, SUSCC was planned as a feeder school for Elon College in North Carolina. In 1922, 51 students stepped into a single building in Wadley, Alabama, that was then known as Bethlehem College; and the dream of a college in east Alabama was realized.

Southern Union remained church related until 1964, operating as Piedmont Junior College, Southern Union College and The Southern Union College. On October 1, 1964, the college was the first to be deeded to the State of Alabama to become part of the newly-created system of two-year colleges. The name of the college became Southern Union State Junior College, and it achieved accreditation in 1970 from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

In response to requests from business and industry, Southern Union expanded its reach to an even wider area in the late 1960s and early 1970s, offering higher education opportunities in Lee and Chambers counties by holding classes at local high schools. The college continued its commitment to the citizens of the area with the construction of campuses in the cities of Opelika and Valley. In 1974, the Valley Campus was completed. And, in 1982, the college purchased land in Opelika and offered a full-range of course offerings at its Opelika Campus. On August 12, 1993, the college merged with the local technical college, thus expanding its technical education offerings. Upon merging, the college became Southern Union State Community College.

Today, Southern Union has three campus locations in Wadley, Opelika and Valley and boasts an enrollment of approximately 5,000 students. SUSCC serves residents of an eight county area of East and Central Alabama as